













## The Muse.

From the Lady's Book for October.

AUTUMN.

BY MISS E. G. ABELL.

Oh, I do love thee, Autumn,

For thou dost bring the best of things!

I love thy plaintive melodies—

I love thee more than Spring.

Thy sunlight has a richer gleam,

A calmer, brighter glow

Upon the dying tints of earth,

Like transient smiles of youth.

I love thee, too, the soft, warm glow

Of wind and wood, and hill,

For thou dost bring the best of things.

And all thy wisdom fill.

I love thee, too, the falling leaf—

I read there many a line

Of what has been, of what will come

To me in future time.

I love to see our own sweet birds,

With more than human care,

And when they sing, a victory down,

Thus only to prepare to die.

And then to see the ripened fruit,

In clusters on the tree,

Types of good, so well spent life,

Ripe for eternity.

The harvest hour is almost past,

Yielding its bounteous store;

I love to think that all will last

Till "Time shall be no more."

That thought on earth is written change,

Still there are certain laws,

And changes as their destined range,

And I love thy kind monotony.

I need them all, I own,

To teach me how to live.

That earth is but a passing scene,

And all its changing, varying hues,

Thy deep, rich, brilliant dyes,

Between these are brighter scenes

For us beyond the skies.

YOU REMEMBER IT—DON'T YOU?

BY THOMAS HAYNES BAYLEY.

You remember the time when I first sought your home,

When a smile, not a word, was the summons to come,

When you said, "I'll be glad to see you,"

And your friendship turned out to be love in disguise.

You remember it—don't you?

You remember it—don't you?

Yes, yes, of all this the remembrance will last,

Long after the present fades into the past.

You remember the grief that grew lighter when shared,

With the bliss, you remember, could not be compared;

You remember how fond was my earliest love,

No fonder than that which I breathe to thee now.

You remember it—don't you?

You remember it—don't you?

Yes, yes, of all this the remembrance will last,

Long after the present fades into the past.

The Story-Teller.

From Chambers' Journal.

THE BLIND SQUATTER.

Nearly four hundred miles up the Trinity

river, Texas, at the extreme point to which flat-

bottomed steamboats run up in search of cotton

and other productions, is Robin's Ferry. Below

the river is narrow, with high, steep banks,

noiselessly and swiftly towards the ocean, while

groves of somewhat stunted trees run down to

the very edge of the cliffs. Here, however, the

stream expands into a broad and shallow lake,

the shores of which are low and even ungraciously

as in the generally the case in Texas. Well, sir,

she died, and I was left alone with a little

image of herself, my poor Ellen. A gayer,

happier being never lived—always smiling—

always singing. In time she brought back some

joy to my heart.

"One morning I awoke with a peculiar sensation

at my heart—I had caught the yellow fever.

I will not detail the history of this illness. Suffice

that it was three months ere I was restored

to health, and then, by some extraordinary accident,

it was proved that I was blind, while my

business was gone from me. I knew not what to

do. You know, sir, the usual course of ruined

men in New Orleans; they sell off secretly, close

their shutters, write G. T. T. (gone to Texas)

on the door, and are no more heard of. But I, sir,

could not do this. I was, however, no longer fit for

business; a quiet retreat in the woods was my best

course. I had a small plot of ground, and I should

have lived in New Orleans. Accordingly, I con-

trived to raise a thousand dollars, when I found

my account, and with this and a negro slave, I

and my child started for Texas. Blind I was

not fit to cope with men, and my object therefore

was to retire, as far as was consistent with safety,

into the woods.

Eight years ago, I journeyed up this river, and

reached this very spot. Francisco, my negro,

was a devoted and faithful negro, and worked

hard, because I was a good master to him. We

erected a hut upon the shore; it was a laborious

occupation; but it was at length completed. I

have said I was a cabinet-maker; so was my neg-

ro; we therefore furnished the place elegantly

for a backwoods dwelling.

Now to speak of my daughter. When we left

New Orleans she was eight years old, and up to

that age had been most carefully educated, her

existence being, of course that of a town girl.

You know, sir, the luxury habits of that

possession city, and how little they fit one for

rugged life. Well, Nell, I never forgot her

plighted thither, preserved and increased her

compliments, and yet she became a perfect

prairie bird. Her fingers play the rude needle

requisite to make these coarse garments, and she

Francisco prepared them for use. We have a

female slave, Francisco's wife; but, her's is a

dark work, and Nell makes butter, cooks, and

sings, and even cleans. And she is quite happy,

singing all the day long; and if half an hour can

be found for a book she is a paradise. Singular

as it may seem, I do most of the hunting; at all

events all the wild fowl shooting. With the

day I am up, and in my dug-out, which I pull

while Nell sits, I find here, while she returns

to prepare breakfast. With my loss of sight I

have gained an additional strength of hearing. I

can detect immediately the approach of the ducks

and geese on the water, and if once they come

near enough, an sure not to waste my powder

and shot. After a couple of hours she returns

to me. Her time is now nearly up. She shall

see her, and breakfast at New Edinburgh."

At this moment, a diminutive sail, at the dis-

tance of a hundred rods, caught my eye. Raising

I perceived a small canoe gliding before a light

breeze which had risen, and rapidly approaching.

The forest and marsh concealed its occupant,

but presently a melodious voice was heard, and

a merry ditty. "There is my child," said

Campbell, his voice husky to a whisper. I never

heard her sing, but I see her mother before me.

"Well, Nell," cried Nell, taking in her little

sail, "no ducks for me to pick up, no one. You

are unlucky this morning."

At this moment she caught sight of my rascal

uniform, and stopped short. "This gentleman

was kind enough to pick them up for me and you

must give him a seat in the boat."

Nelly approached. Though taught by the gun,

one could see the blue-eyed Scotch girl in her.

Light curls fell from beneath her vast straw hat

over her shoulders, while a simple fur pelisse,

and buckskin moccasins, with red worsted stockings,

was all her visible attire. But never had I

seen anything more graceful or more elegant. A

woman and yet a girl, she had evidently the feel-

ings of the first and the joyous artlessness of the

second. We were friends directly.

In a few minutes more we were sailing for the

shore, and in a quarter of an hour were in sight

of New Edinburgh. To my surprise I discovered

a substantial log hut, with several out houses,

Indian corn-fields, while pumpkins, &amp;c., flourished

in abundance. Two cows were grazing in the

neighborhood, as many horses were near them,

while pigs and fowls were scattered all around.

I was amazed. The blind Scotch industry

was so novel in Texas. I expressed my sur-

prise. "Eight years of perseverance can do

wonders," said Campbell quietly. "Thank Heaven,

I am happy, and my Nelly will not be a beggar."

"But you must find her a steady, hard-working

young man for a husband," returned I, "to pre-

serve all this." "I think," said I, smiling, "if

you were to ask Nell, she would tell you that

she was alone already." The slightly heightened

color of the maiden was her only answer, and at

that moment we reached the landing, where the

negro couple and their pickineries were standing.

The slaves were sleek and hearty, and showed

their teeth merrily.

Campbell led the way into the house, which

was, for Texas, superbly furnished. Comfort

and abundance was everywhere. The break-

fast was, to a hunter, delicious, consisting of

coffee, hot corn cakes, venison steaks and wild

game, while a cold turkey graced the centre of the

board. What I enjoyed, however, better even than break-

fast, was the attention of the daughter to her

blind father. He seated himself at the board,

and Nell, having first helped me, supplied all his

wishes, with a care and watchfulness which was

delightful to behold. She anticipated all his

wishes, her whole soul being seemingly bent to

give him pleasure. She was, in fact, more like a

mother with a child, than a daughter with a

father in the prime of life. Breakfast concluded,

we talked again of his history, particularly since

his arrival in Texas.

The routine of the day was simple enough, as

she explained to me. The negroes owned by

the father and daughter worked in the fields from

dawn until six in the evening, the father fashion-

ed some rural implement, an axe or a plough

handle, while the daughter plied the needle.

They breakfasted at half past six, dined at half

past eleven, and supped at six. After this meal,

Nelly generally read to her father for two hours.

Their library was good, including general standard

works, and the four first volumes of Chambers'

Edinburgh Magazine.

Campbell went out into the air after a little

while, to talk to the negroes, and I was left alone

with Nell. I took advantage of his absence to

learn more of his character. Never was I more

delighted. Not a word of regret for the busy

world, and I never saw him with a long

word, but he was a daughter only, and that

even a husband must for a time hold a second

place in her heart. At length she wrote:

"And now, sir, I am married, and am very

happy, though I almost regret the step, as I can

no longer give my whole time to my dear blind

father. He is, however, so happy himself, that I

must resign myself to be less his nurse, espe-

cially as the only quarrel John and I have, is as to

who shall wait on him. If he has lost part of his

daughter, he has found a son."

This picture of happiness made me thoughtful,

and I owned that great as is the blessing of civil-

ization, and vast and grand as are the benefits

of communication with our fellows, a scene of felicity

might yet be found in the woods. Though I am

a strong lover of mankind, and wish to be among

them, and to enjoy the blessings of civilization,

yet do I think if I were a blind old man, I would

be a backwoods squatter with such a daughter as

Nelly.

I heard no more from them, as I soon returned

to England, and the busy life of the world and

other avocations have always prevented my writ-

ing. Should I, however, ever revisit Texas, my

first care would be to run up the Trinity, and

once more enjoy hospitality at the table of the

Blind Squatter.

The Widow.

Is there any character in life so interesting as

a young and beautiful widow? Not a ditty,

coquettish one, who, even amid her sorrows, has

an eye to future wedded happiness with another;

but one of genuine heart, wedded to her husband's

pen, pensive but not sad, her grief softened to a

pensive smile.

Solace, steadfast and true.

I met one of this fashion last week. Her sor-

rows had served only to soften her charms, as

a gem in a picture. Her brilliant eyes, as

I have often seen since death with joy, had lost

none of their power, but they were more sub-

liminal as they seemed to be looking beyond the

grave, longing to join her liege lord in one eter-

nal bliss of wedded love.

"When your good husband died," said I,

"earth lost a bright ornament, but heaven gained

a saint."

A tear of sorrow stood in the widow's eye, but

a gleam of religious hope and resignation melted

it. "I need not tell you," I continued, "that

search the wide world, you cannot find

his fellow—your already know that full well."

The fair bereaved one clutched my hand com-

pulsively. I had touched the right cord—nature

burst forth—a very torrent of tears gushed from

her eyes, and she sobbed as if her heart were

broken—even the "counterfeit presentment" of

Nelly upon her countenance seemed to catch the

infection, and rain alabaster tears; and in sweet

and broken accents she uttered the beautiful motto

which she had learned—"I'll be true!" [Post.

OBTAINING ORDERS. "Go out into the woods,"

Simbo, "said a southern mother to one of her

negroes, "and out there some crickets for a fence

like a merry ditty. "There is my child," said

Campbell, his voice husky to a whisper. I never

heard her sing, but I see her mother before me.

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all other executions taken from heretofore *under French regulations*, that the power of the sheriff or more than *fourty days* from and after the death or removal of each town justice or recorder, and provided also, that such disinterested persons as may be named in the writs of *quo warranto* shall be sworn to the validity of each execution he may issue by virtue of this act.

Sec. 2. That any justice of the peace and of the quorum as aforesaid may make and return a writ of *quo warranto* against any of such deceased or absent town justice or recorder, which documents thus certified shall have the same validity as if made and certified by such justice or recorder on or *approved July 7, 1856*.

AN ACT, modifying and amending chapter and numbered and nine of the statutes of the year eighteen hundred and forty-four.

It enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled.

Sec. 1. The act entitled "an act in relation to manufacturing corporations," passed March twenty-eight, eighteen hundred and forty-four, is hereby modified and amended by adding thereto the following words, to-wit: "and of the sum of *one hundred and fifty dollars*," and of their other property and assets;" so that said second section of the said act shall read as follows, to-wit: "that the stockholders of such corporations, from contracting debts, or on such an extent, that the individuals of such corporation shall be only one hundred and fifty dollars of the amount of their capital stock paid in, and remaining in the hands of their creditors."

Sec. 2. Nothing contained in the charter of any manufacturing corporation in this State shall be construed to exempt such corporation from the provisions of the said act, in compliance with the provisions of said section third of the act aforesaid as hereby modified.

Sec. 3. This act shall take effect from and after its approval by the governor. [Approved June 27, 1856.]

AN ACT to increase the salary of the County Attorney for the county of Kennebec.

It enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled.

Sec. 1. The salary of the county Attorney in and for the county of Kennebec, is hereby increased to the sum of *one hundred and fifty dollars* per annum, to be paid as now provided by law, and the same shall be in full compensation for his services in the office aforesaid.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its approval by the governor. [Approved June 21, 1856.]

AN ACT to amend the one hundred and twenty-fifth chapter of the revised statutes.

It enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows:

Sec. 1. The one hundred and twenty-fifth chapter of the revised statutes shall be amended in section thirty-seven of this chapter, within the words and to-wit: "and who had contracted with such owner," in the fourth and fifth lines of said section; and the words "and who had contracted with such owner," shall be changed to the words "or any such debtor, and the representative of his estate as insolvent, and the administrator or executor of any insolvent estate, shall, upon citation, be liable to answer to the claim of such owner," so that the said section shall read as follows, to-wit: "that any person who shall perform labor or furnish materials for erecting, altering, or repairing any house or other building or appurtenances, or furnish labor or materials for the above purposes by virtue of any contract with the owner thereof or with any person claiming to be the owner thereof, or with any person claiming to be the owner thereof, and the lot of land upon which the same stand, upon such right of redeeming the same, shall be liable to answer to the claim of such owner, within thirty days from the time when such payment becomes due, notwithstanding the demise of any such debtor and the representative of his estate as insolvent; and the administrator or executor of any insolvent estate, shall, upon citation, be liable to answer brought upon a claim secured by such lien."

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its approval by the governor, and shall be amended by adding thereto the following section:

Sec. 41. In case the death of any person owned a debt secured by any lien as contained in section thirty-seven of this chapter, within the sixty days mentioned therein, and before the commencement of the action mentioned in section thirty-eight of this chapter, shall be commenced, the administrator or executor of the estate of such person, or executor or trustee thereof, shall be allowed in writing to commence said action, and said lien shall continue in force during said sixty days. [Approved June 26, 1856.]

AN ACT giving the terms of holding the district court in the county of Franklin.

It enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows:

Sec. 1. The terms of the district court for the western district, within and for the county of Franklin, shall commence on the last Monday of March, and on the Monday next but one preceding the first Tuesday in October, annually; and all acts and parts of acts of the General Assembly, in relation to the holding of the district court, shall be construed in relation to the terms of the district court as aforesaid.

Sec. 2. All writs, warrants, complaints, executions, petitions, recognitions, orders, returns, and other proceedings, in relation to the holding of the district court, or persons, or returns, to said court, shall be made and returned to said court, shall be returned, in every day, and be acted upon by said court, at the terms thereof established by the General Assembly.

Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its approval by the governor. [Approved June 27, 1856.]

AN ACT in addition to the one hundred and sixth chapter of the revised statutes, in relation to the publication of notices ordered by any Judge or Probate.

It enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows:

Sec. 1. Whenever the judge of probate in any county in this State shall order the publication of any notice, the party required to publish the same may select the paper in which such notice shall be published, unless said judge should be of opinion that such notice should be published in the Standard or in the Enterprise.

Sec. 2. This act shall be in force from and after its approval by the governor. [Approved June 27, 1856.]

AN ACT establishing the salary of the County Attorney for Oxford county.

It enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows:

Sec. 1. The salary of the county Attorney within and for the county of Oxford is hereby established at the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars; and the said salary as established by this act, shall be deemed to have commenced the first day of January, next.

Sec. 2. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its approval by the governor. [Approved July 27, 1856.]

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AN ACT concerning Jurors' fees.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows:

The tenth section of one hundred and fifty-one of the revised statutes is hereby amended by striking out all after the word "allowed," in the sixth line, and inserting the words, "a like compensation," so that said section as amended shall read as follows: The grand jurors and the jurors for trial, attending at the supreme judicial court and the county courts, shall be paid a salary and shall receive a fee of one dollar for their attendance and six cents a mile for their travel out and return to the place of the court from their residence; and jurors attending before a sheriff or on any other occasion prescribed by law, shall be allowed a like compensation. [Approved July 29, 1904.]

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